

# SNIPPETS

June 2015  
Issue 436



Three of our members who March at the Burleigh Heads  
Anzac Day 100th Ceremony

Peter McGregor served in the Air Force, Chez Siwka served in the  
Army and David Hoskins served in the Navy.

## GOLD COAST MEETINGS

Management Committee Meetings- 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the  
Month

General Meeting : Sunday

**Australian Facetors' Guild Gold Coast Region—**

2nd June 7.30pm

4th August 7.30pm

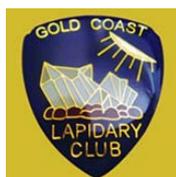
6th October 7.30pm

8th December—Xmas Dinner

contact Rod Turville on 55-394450 for further information

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[www.goldcoastlapidaryclub.com.au](http://www.goldcoastlapidaryclub.com.au)

**Monthly Newsletter of the Gold Coast Lapidary Club Inc**

[www.goldcoastlapidaryclub.com.au](http://www.goldcoastlapidaryclub.com.au)

Members of Queensland Lapidary & Allied Craft Associations Inc.

80 Pacific Avenue, Miami. Queensland. PO Box 12, Nobby Beach, Queensland 4218 Phone: 5526 1190

Hon Patron: Ken Wilks

## Gold Coast Lapidary Club Inc

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Phone: 5526 1190

### The Management Committee 2014-2015

President Wayne Schulz 55 961865 / 0417-961865 email: president@goldcoastlapidaryclub.com  
Vice President 1 Geoff Saunders 0407125567 Vice President 2 Ken Wilks 55 789419  
Secretary Lenora Collins de Luthé 0402605935 Treasurer Daniel Renneberg 0409729676  
Member Secretary : Wayne Schulz 0417-961865

### General Committee

Chez Siwka 55 799989 Jadwiga Siwka 5579 9989 Denis Burton 55 276488 Robert McGregor 0473024662  
Allen Frentz 5571 6436

### Management Positions

Snippets Editor: Deborah Ensor 0418 537234 Purchasing Officer Geoff Saunders 0407 125567  
Club Curator Burt Last 0401355271 Senior Librarian Liz Nicholas  
Assistant Librarian Jadwiga Siwka 5579 9989 Raffle Coordinator Elena Sparks  
Show Co-ordinator Uta Sorenson 0424206610 Show Stall Conveners: Pru Aguinaldo & Denise Burton

### Judges

Faceting - Robert McGregor Cabochons - Ken Wilks Carving - Allen Frentz  
Silversmith/wire work Lady Marie Howard and Jadwiga Siwka

### Instructors & Workshop Times

#### **Monday 10am to 3pm**

Cabbing Alex Toro 0411 805378

#### **Monday 7pm to 9.00pm**

**Evening** Cabbing John Nelmes 0412 575995 Assist Ins Jamie Irvine 0406 113117  
Opal Cutting and Polishing Assistant Ins: Jason Neville 0433 691025

#### **Tuesday 10am to 3pm**

Faceting Bert Last 0401355271 (every 2nd week) must have done basic faceting  
Cabbing Robert Keane 0417 141950  
Bone Carving John Tonkin 55 3471121  
Free Form Boats ( 1st and 2nd week of the month) Laurence Yannacelli 55 772185

#### **Wednesday 10am to 3pm**

Silver Jewellery/Wire Wrapping Marie Howard 0428 732276 & Jadwiga Siwka 55 799989  
Robert Keane 0417 141950 and Assistant Instructor Elena Sparks  
Cabbing Denise Burton 55 276448 Assist Ins Marianne Tokessy  
Faceting TBA  
Investing Book with Instructor Geoff Saunders 55 687616 / 0407 125567

#### **Wednesday 7pm to 9.00pm**

**Evening** Basic Silver Jadwiga Siwka 55 799989 / 0419 756533 Esther Shelley 0402 858208  
Cabbing John Nelmes 0412 575995 Mal Wanchap 55808894  
Assist Ins John Johnson

#### **Thursday 10am to 3pm**

Cabbing TBA  
Silver/Casting/Cabbing Ron Barr 55 394737  
Faceting Brian Brown 55 278552 & Lawrence Yannacelli 55 772185  
Casting Book with Instructor Geoff Saunders 55 687616 / 0407 125567

#### **Friday 7pm to 9.00pm**

**Evening** Cabbing Ron Palmada 55 345701

#### **Saturday 9am to 3pm**

Cabbing Alex Toro 0411 805378  
Faceting George Tsakmakis 55 909470  
Soap Stone Carving/Viking Chain Merv Scott 55 314576 (arrange with Merv)

## President's Report—June 2015

Hi all,

My final report for my term as President.

It has been an interesting period and I have learnt a lot about myself, the Club and Club Members and can probably now write my book. It has been a busy year and with the help of committee, instructors and members we have managed to get through a few changes that are now taking effect in the club and showing promise. I have to thank my VP for picking up the reins during my 2 hospital stays during my term and I think he may be thinking I was coming up with injuries just to get a rest but thanks Geoff, appreciated. We still have a lot to do in going forward with different areas and whilst these tasks will be time consuming I am sure we will benefit from them.

Once again a reminder to get involved with the Show and register on the rosters as there is plenty to do on the day and it is our chance to show off what we do best. Well I am not going to make this one a long one so thank you all for your support and assistance through the year and I look forward to working the wheels with you once I get sorted out.

Cheers

Wayne Schulz  
Club President

### **RESULTS: 2015 MEMBERS' CHALLENGE**

Congratulations to the following members who have successfully completed this years Challenge.

Rod Brown, Beverley Young, Laurence Yannuccelli, Jan Lippold, Arthur Jones, John Morris, Robert Keane, John Tonkin, Ken Wilks, Brian Brown, Ann O'Conner, Uta Sorenson-Bode,

Leigh Connelly, Peter Mc Gregor, Jennie Thompson, Graham Thompson, Geoff Saunders, Ross Cochrane, Kieran Lee, Joe Lockley, Allan Morley, Keith Atlee, Daniel Renneberg, Rod Turville, Cesare Inserra, Ron Peebles, Ilse Morrone, Elena Sparks, Peter Springfield.

*For your reference:* The 'Challenge' answer sheet showing the correct answers is now displayed on the notice board located adjacent to the faceting room door.

Certificates will be presented in due course. (Available at the front desk in our Clubroom)

### **DONATION of MINERAL SPECIMENS to YOUR CLUB.**

Thanks to Brian Brown for his generous donation of one medium and several smaller pieces of Peridotite (Olivine) to the Clubs mineral collection.

The larger piece is referred to as being a volcanic bomb. The core of this 'bomb' is comprised of what is known to be a xenolith of peridotite which is encased in a 'skin' of basalt.

Rising magma forced the peridotite from the upper mantle where it was then encased within the rising basalt magma. It then traveled up to and through the crust, until finally violently erupting onto the surface with such an explosive force, (fueled by gasses and a mixture of hydrothermal fluids) as to propel the ejected material through the air. The molten rock solidified and the basalt exterior coating of the 'bomb' cooled and formed a 'skin'.

Peridotites are regarded as being intrusive ultra-basic rocks which are rich in MgO and FeO and low in SiO<sub>2</sub>. They are primarily composed of the mineral groups, Olivines, Pyroxenes and Amphiboles.

## Australian Jewellery Supplies



### June Birthstone poem - The Pearl

*"Who comes with summer to this earth  
And owes to June her hour of birth  
A pearl should wear against her skin  
Who's innocence many a heart shall win."*

source: [birthstones.org.uk](http://birthstones.org.uk)

#### DISCLAIMER

Opinions expressed in this Snippets Newsletter are not necessarily those of the members of the Gold Coast Lapidary Club Inc, furthermore neither the Committee nor the Editor are responsible for any liability arising from errors, omissions or mistakes contained in Snippets. Readers are to proceed carefully especially with respect to any technical information or advice, thus the Club and /or the Editor disclaim all liability.

## Anzac Day.

Chez & I attended the morning Anzac service in Burleigh Heads as we have for the past 25 or so year.

It was a very moving service and the biggest we have ever attended in Burleigh Heads being the 100 years anniversary service.

It was heart warming to see so many attend especially the young children wearing their grandfathers or great grandfathers medals. The morning was represented by the Army, Navy and Air Force and the young cadets.

There were also children from many schools in the area marching and the spirit of



the anniversary of the Anzac Day was unbelievable.

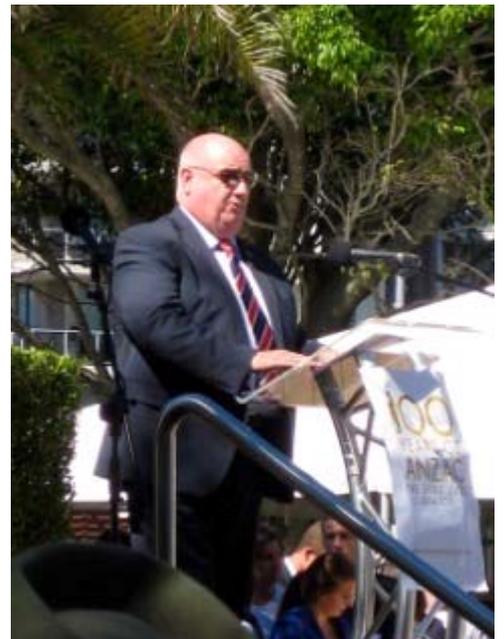
It was great to see so many people and so many organizations participate on this historical occasion.

I was very proud to see my husband Chez march and wear his medals for serving in the ANZUK Forces in the early 1970 in Singapore & Malaysia.

Participating in the march were also a

couple of our Lapidary Club members and they were Peter McGregor and David Hoskins and I know many more of our club members were marching today in other areas of the Gold Coast.

Greg Betts & Michael Heart our local MP also attended . Good on you mates, keep up the Anzac spirit. Jadzia and Chez.



# JUNE'S BIRTHSTONE

Lucky June has three gems as birthstones, Pearl, Alexandrite, and Moonstone:

## Pearl

Historically, pearls have been used as an adornment for centuries. They were one of the favorite gem materials of the Roman Empire; later in Tudor England, the fifteenth century was known as *the pearl age*. Pearls are unique as they are the only gems from living sea creatures and require no faceting or polishing to reveal their natural beauty. In the early 1900s, the first successful commercial culturing of round saltwater pearls began. Since the 1920s, cultured pearls have almost completely replaced natural pearls in the market.

## Alexandrite

A relatively modern gem, *Alexandrite*, was first discovered in Russia in 1831 during the reign of its namesake, Czar Alexander II, and is an extremely rare chrysoberyl with chameleon-like qualities. Its color is a lovely green in both daylight and fluorescent light; it changes color to a purplish red in incandescent light. Due to its rarity, some jewelers stock synthetic versions of this enchanting gemstone. (Synthetic gemstones are man-made alternatives to the natural material, possessing the same physical, optical, and chemical properties as its natural gemstone counterpart.)

## Moonstone

The third birthstone for June is the *Moonstone*. It was given its name by the Roman natural historian Pliny, who wrote that moonstone's appearance altered with the phases of the moon — a belief that was held until well after the sixteenth century.

A phenomenal gemstone, moonstones show a floating play of light (called *adularescence*) and sometimes show either a multi-rayed star or a cat's eye. Considered a sacred stone in India, moonstones often are displayed on a background of yellow (a sacred color) and are believed to encapsulate within the stone a spirit whose purpose is to bring good fortune. Part of the family of minerals called *feldspar*, moonstone occurs in many igneous and metamorphic rocks and comes in a variety of colors such as green, blue, peach, and champagne. The most prized moonstones are from Sri Lanka; India, Australia, the United States, Myanmar, and Madagascar are also sources.

*What is a werewolf's favorite gem? Moonstone of course*

## HOME MADE JEWELLERY CLEANER

- 1 tablespoon salt
- 1 tablespoon baking soda
- 1 tablespoon dish detergent
- 1 cup water
- 1 piece aluminium foil

### METHOD

1. Heat water in the microwave for 1 or 2 minutes.
2. Cut a piece of aluminium foil that roughly covers the bottom of a small bowl (like a cereal bowl).
3. Pour hot water into bowl. Place salt, soda, and dish-washing liquid into bowl. Place jewellery on top of foil and let it sit for 5 to 10 minutes. Rinse jewellery in cool water and dry jewellery completely with soft cloth. Discard solution after use and make a new batch next time.
4. According to wire-sculpture.com, "this works well for gold-filled, brass, German (nickel) silver, and sterling silver. I have even cleaned jewellery with freshwater pearls, shell cameos and mother of pearl with no problem".

From <http://www.food.com/recipe/jewelry-cleaner-180133>

### Are you sure it's JADE

- Should a chip occur, the freshly broken surface SHOULD NOT sparkle in the sun. If it does, it is not jade.
- If you can scratch it with a knifepoint, it is not jade
- It will be a lot heavier than a common rock of a similar size.
- Tap your specimen with a hammer. If a moon shaped fracture appears, it is agate or jasper, but not jade.
- If it is a true piece of jade, it will have a smooth, waxy almost greasy appearance.
- The more milky the water is when you are cutting the jade, the better the quality. If the water is not milky then you don't have a true piece of jade. You have something else.
- The only positive test for jade is X-ray analysis and specific gravity tests.

Watson to Sherlock Holmes:  
'What kind of rock is this Holmes?'  
"Sedimentary My Dear Watson!"



## ROCK CAKES

### You will need

2 cups self raising flour  
½ cup sultanas  
½ cup dried cranberries  
¼ teaspoon cinnamon  
4 tablespoons reduced fat margarine (60g)  
½ cup skim milk (or low fat soy milk)  
2 egg whites  
cooking spray/ or baking paper  
2 teaspoons sugar, extra



### Method

Preheat oven to 220°C or 200°C (fan forced oven)

Sift flour into large bowl then add all the dry ingredients.

In a microwave safe jug melt margarine. Add milk and combine using a whisk.

Add egg whites to the margarine and milk mix and thoroughly whisk.

Then add the milk mixture to the dry ingredients mixing well.

Divide mixture into 12 and drop onto a baking tray coated with cooking spray (or line with baking paper). Sprinkle extra sugar over the top of each cake.

Bake for 20 minutes or until pale golden.

I have also added dried apricots and slithered almonds instead of the cranberries.



As the months are getting cooler, several of our members are heading out on their annual pilgrimage. Some heading north up the coastal roads, others heading west. Some are fossicking, some have packed their rods, others are chasing the sun. Whatever their reasons for leaving, we wish them good fortune, and safe travelling .



## *Deb's Quote of the Month*

'Walk away from any thing or anyone who takes away from your joy. Life is too short to put up with fools'

*Unknown*

## **UPCOMING GEM SHOW & FESTIVAL DATES**

### **2015 Gem Show Dates– June thru to November**

#### **June 8th Queens Birthday**

June 27 Gold Coast Gem Show Pizzey Park, 80 Pacific Ave, Miami QLD

July 3-5 Cloncurry Rockhana Gem & Mineral Festival, Mary Kathleen Memorial Park, Museum and Information Centre, McIlwraith Street, Cloncurry, QLD

July 11 Caboolture Gemfest Caboolture Historical Village, Beerburrum Rd, Calboolture QLD

July 11th-12th Hervey Bay Festival of Gems, Star of the Sea Catholic School, 39 Hughes Rd Harvey Bay

July 18th-19th Townsville Gem & Mineral Show, Club Rooms, 96 Mooney St, Gulliver

July 17th-20th 2015 Yowah Opal Festival, Harlequin Drive, Yowah, via Cunnamulla

July 25th-26th Cairns Gem Festival, Club Rooms 129 Mulgrave Rd Cairns.

July 30-August 2 Lightning Ridge Opal Festival RSL Club, Lightning Ridge NSW

July 30-August 1st, Kybong Rock and Mineral Festive 1 Lobwein Road, Kybong, QLD

August 1st Ipswich & Dist Lapidary Club Show, Ipswich Show Grounds Warwick Rd Ipswich

August 1st Innisfail Club Gem Show, Club Rooms River Ave, Innisfail

August 2nd Atherton Show, Club House, Racecourse Rd Toga

August 6th-9th Anakie Gemfest, Allan King Memorial Park, Anakie Central Queensland

August 15th & 16th Central Queensland Gem Show, Gladstone Show Grounds, Cnr Tank & Scenery Streets Gladstone

August 29th Waterloo Bay Gem Show, Hemmant Community Hall, Brand & Ramsey St, Hemmant

September 5th-6th AFG Seminar, Glen Innes

#### **September 6th, Fathers Day**

September 12-13th Bribie Island Gem Festival, 191 Sunderland Drive, Banksia Beach, Bribie Island

September 26th Caloundra Gem Show, Caloundra State School, George St Caloundra.

October 3rd Beenleigh Gem Festival, Beenleigh Show Grounds

#### **October 5th Labour Day**

October 10th Nambour GemFest, Nambour Showground

October 10th-11th, N.S.W. Central Coast Gem Show, Mingara Centre, Tumbi Umbi, NSW

October 24-25th Toowoomba Gemfest, Centenary Heights High School, Assembly Hall, Ramsay St, Toowoomba

*The Gold Coast Lapidary Club wishes to express their sincere thanks to Michael Hart local MP, who has offered the facilities of his office for photocopying our Snippets Newsletter.*



## **You are a rock hound if . . .**

- People have ever run into you because you suddenly stopped in the middle of a path to pick up a rock.
- You have ever poured the last of your drink water on a rock, because it might just be an agate.
- You ever heard the description of and archaeologists" field work, and thought; "people get paid for that??"
- Your neighbours complain about all the weird saw and grinding noises that take place in your basement at 3 am.
- You think the only mountain worth going to is Gem Mountain
- Your tongue has ever gone dry from licking too many rocks
- If you have ever gone to a rock vendor and known more about rocks than the vendor did himself
- You have ever ruined clothes in the process of getting a rock, and afterwards thought; "so worth it."
- You plan to spend a fortune at Tucson Arizona
- You have ever looked at a boulder and thought; " I know just what to do with that."
- Your parents have ever yelled at you because their backpack "mysteriously" gained ten pounds after your trip to the beach.
- You have ever replaced your lawn with rocks, not because you didn't want to mow your lawn, but because you ran out of room.

And lastly, you know you're a **rock hound** if you think that a hobby change means going from cabbing to faceting.

By Tomas Green 2012

## **Trivia Corner**

- A shrimp's heart is in it's head.
- It is physically impossible for pigs to look up into the sky.
- If you sneeze too hard, you can fracture a rib.
- Tea is said to have been discovered in 2737 BC by a Chinese emperor when some tea leaves accidentally blew into a pot of boiling water. The tea bag was introduced in 1908 by Thomas Sullivan of New York.
- The first fossilized specimen of Australopithecus Afarensis was named Lucy after the paleontologists' favorite song "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds," by the Beatles.
- The porpoise is second to man as the most intelligent animal on the planet.
- Owls are the only birds who can see the colour blue.
- Months that begin on a Sunday always have a Friday the 13th in them.



# Caught by Your Camera



Theresa, Peter, Mike and Michelle's finished rings



The new silversmithing assistant instructor Elena presenting Theresa, Peter, Mike & Michelle with their certificates



Faye looking pleased with herself, receiving the Basic Faceting Certificate from Chez



Rex's lovely Silver Pendant with a checkerboard faceted stone . Great work Rex!



Chez and Wayne looking at ease in front of the mic's at the ABC Gold coast Radio station with Bern Young (ABC's Breakfast Presenter)



Eddy lending a hand—painting the men's toilets Love your apron

